Computer Technology

CONTROL DATA
PLATO®
computer-based
education

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Individualized Training through PLATO® Computer-Based Education

The Control Data PLATO system represents a new concept in education methods that have otherwise changed little in thousands of years. Students sit at the PLATO terminal using either its keyboard or sometimes simply touching its screen to interact with the system. They learn in a variety of stimulating ways: drill/practice, tutorial, inquiry, simulation, animation, even games. The PLATO system responds to each student on a one-on-one basis with instant response yet infinite patience, answering, correcting, coaxing, congratulating.

Control Data Institute is the only technical school that combines the PLATO system of self-paced individualized instruction with instructor-assisted "hands-on" training. It's a training method that allows students a great amount of personal flexibility while maintaining the goals of their program.

The Computer Technician: The Challenge

The computer technician has a key job in the computer industry. The technician repairs and maintains the computer system to keep it up and running efficiently. As a computer technician you are a troubleshooter, a specialist, whose knowledge and skills may be put to use anywhere, from a modern computer room to the test area of a computer manufacturing plant. A wide variety of responsibilities come with your title of Computer Technician, along with visibility and the opportunity to keep your fingers on the pulse of the computer industry.

Computer Technology: The Opportunity

The widespread use of computers in business, industry, science and government has created a market for the individual who is trained and qualified in the servicing and maintenance of electronic data processing machines and associated equipment. Each new installation brings with it requirements for testing, checkout, repair, adjustment and up-keep. Your own particular interests and abilities, along with the training you receive, are keys for success in this exciting and challenging area of the computer industry.

Graduates of the CDI Computer Technology Course may work in computer maintenance, repair, installation, production, checkout, design, manufacturing, customer service, sales support, or other similar career fields which are closely associated with the industry. To learn the current CDI placement rate, ask for specific placement information.

Computer-Based Personalized Instruction

The computer-based personalized approach allows the individual student to study effectively, using multi-media course

components. These course components can include reference texts, program texts, audio/video tapes, "hands-on" experience with computer terminals, and practical laboratory work sessions.

One of the advantages of this approach is consistency...each presentation is always at the same level of quality, time after time.

In addition, students proceed at their own pace. They can go slowly when they need to or as fast as they are able. Slow-to-learn students have every opportunity to review material. The faster student can apply any time saved to the study of additional material.

This system of learning frees the instructor to spend more time helping students with individual problems.

Course Objectives

Control Data's Computer Technology Course is designed to provide you with the knowledge, skills and laboratory experience necessary to seek entry-level employment within the computer industry. As a graduate of this course you will have a broad systems concept as well as a familiarity with all the parts of a typical computer system. This background should provide a substantial foundation for your technical growth in future years.

Orientation
This short course segment introduces you to Control Data Institute and also includes a section on learning in an individualized learning environment.

Basic Electronics
The course provides the student with a solid foundation in basic digital circuitry. It includes: introduction to electronics, DC and AC circuits, tools and devices, circuit elements, semiconductor principles, power supplies, waveform generators, oscilloscope fundamentals, numbering systems, symbolic logic and computer components. Practical laboratory work reinforces theory learned in the classroom.

Introduction To Computer Systems
During the course you will cover data processing fundamentals, introduction to computer peripheral devices and the input/output interface. This course is a prerequisite for Central Processors and Peripherals.

CYBER 18® Central Processor Unit
Basic electronics introduces you to computer hardware and software: memory, control circuits, arithmetic logic circuit, input/output, maintenance diagnostics and troubleshooting. Laboratory work will again reinforce theoretical studies. In this course you will study the operation of the Control Data CYBER 18-20 Computer as an example of a typical modern computer system.

Course Description (continued)

Microprocessors
This module of the course provides you with a conceptual background in microprocessors, the miniaturized chips and integrated circuits that are making computers smaller, more versatile, more affordable and more popular. Basically, this section covers microprocessing principles, terminologies and applications.

Peripheral Devices
This portion of the curriculum will examine peripheral devices typically found in the computer industry. You will not only study the concepts of various peripheral equipment but will gain hands-on experience with specific devices. Areas covered will include: telecommunications concepts, magnetic storage equipment, visual displays, printing devices and data-entry equipment.

Professional Development
The objective of this final phase is to help students prepare for entry into the working world. The unit is designed to make students more aware of the job market in computer technology and to help them seek the job of their choice.

Since the curriculum uses the multi-media personalized learning method of instruction, there is ample opportunity for students to review subject matter if it is necessary.

Enrollment Qualifications

There are two prerequisites required for enrollment in the Computer Technology Program...(1) you must have a high school diploma or an equivalent certificate, and (2) you must pass an Admissions Test which will be given to you at an Information Seminar.

Applicants interested in computer technology should be able to think logically and be interested in working with electronic and electro-mechanical devices. Advanced standing status may be granted by testing if the student's educational background merits it.

Results

Most graduates of the Computer Technology Course seek employment in one of two general job categories: as Field Technicians or In-House Technicians. There is a wide variety of job titles and functions within each of these classifications. The Field Technician is responsible for installing, maintaining and modifying digital devices that may be independent of or part of a computer system. The term "In-House Technician" covers a variety of jobs that must be performed as the equipment is manufactured. Most of these job categories are involved with the assembly, test, and check-out of the various parts and sub-assemblies of a computer system. In-House Technicians insure that the equipment is assembled properly and is ready to ship to the customer's site.

This is a general description of the curriculum and is subject to local change.
For specific curriculum details, please consult the appropriate local school catalog.

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